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Rio 2016 Olympic Games Women's Rugby Sevens Game Analysis Report

World Rugby Game Analysis

## COMMENTARY

The women's rugby sevens competition at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games saw Australia secure the first sevens Olympic gold medal with New Zealand and Canada winning silver and bronze respectively.

The competition in Rio almost mirrored that of a round on the 2015-16 HSBC World Rugby Women's Sevens Series and this can be viewed in the first instance in the comparison between competition seeding and the final Olympic rankings. Teams were seeded by their aggregate performance on the series in 2014-15 and 2015-16 and drawn into pools for the competition based on their seeding.

| Olympic Ranking | World Series <br> Seeding |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | 1 | Team |
| 2 | 2 | Australia |
| 3 | 3 | New Zealand |
| 4 | 4 | Canada |
| 5 | 6 | Great Britain |
| 6 | 5 | USA |
| 7 | 8 | Spance |
| 8 | 7 | Fiji |
| 9 | 9 | Brazil |
| 10 | 10 | Japan |
| 11 | 11 | Kenya |
| 12 | 12 | Colombia |

The top four and bottom four teams in the competition achieved a final ranking equal to their seeding with USA and Spain achieving a final ranking just one place above their seeding.

The shape of the game at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games was very similar to that witnessed on the world series with very little differences presented.

- The average tries per game in Rio was 5.2, identical to that on the 2015-16 series.
- Sixty-five per cent of tries scored had no rucks or mauls in the build-up play in Rio, compared to 64 per cent on the 2015-16 series.
- There were an average of 18.2 rucks and mauls per game in Rio, compared to 18.8 on the 2015-16 series.
- Fifty-eight per cent of restart kicks were contested with 33 per cent retained in Rio, compared to 61 per cent and 31 per cent respectively in the 2015-16 series.

The minor differences that existed between the Olympic Games and the series are as follows:

- Ball-in-play percentage dropped to an average of 51 per cent in Rio from 54 per cent on the series.
- The average number of passes per game dropped to 62.8 per game in Rio from 72.6 per game on the series.
- The average number of penalties and free-kicks increased from 7.2 per game on the series to 8.4 per game in Rio.

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The following report is a quantitative review of the Rio 2016 women's rugby sevens competition. It brings together the relevant data relating to each team's performance in the competition.

The report has several objectives:

- To provide a profile of how the game of women's sevens was played at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.
- To provide a profile of each participating team's performance in the competition.
- To provide an instrument to compare the development of the game from the series to the Olympic Games.
- To present the relative performance of each participating team in all aspects of the game, enabling a comparison between teams.
- To identify alternative strategies in performance adopted in certain areas of game play by various teams.

In summary, the report comprises an analysis of all aspects of play together with the approach and performance of all the participating teams.

For questions concerning any of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games Women's Rugby Sevens Game Analysis Statistical Report, please contact:

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## 2016 OLYMPIC GAMES FACTS

## Scoring

- An average of 32.2 points were scored per game
- Eight-two per cent of the points scored came from tries with an average of 5.2 tries scored per match
- A try was scored every 81 seconds of possession
- The winning team scored the most tries in 33 or 97 per cent of matches
- Conversion success was 53 per cent and one penalty goal was successfully kicked
- Forty per cent of tries came from penalty or free-kick possession
- Sixty-five per cent of tries contained no ruck or maul in the build-up play, while 66 per cent contained three or fewer passes
- Sixty-five per cent of possessions that entered into the opposition's 22 m area resulted in a try
- The referee video review (RVR) was used a total of three times with 100 per cent of referrals resulting in a try being awarded


## Open play

- Ball in play time averaged 51 per cent or seven minutes and 10 seconds per match
- A pass was made once every 6.9 seconds of possession, resulting in an average of 63 passes being made per match
- Eleven per cent of phases in play, or one every 9.4, contained five or more passes, while 28 per cent contained just one pass
- There was an average of 18.2 rucks and mauls per game with 78 per cent being retained
- Seventy-three per cent of all rucks and mauls were located between both 22 m lines
- An average of 1.8 kicks occurred per game


## Set piece

- Fifty-eight per cent of all restarts kicked were contestable
- Possession was retained in 33 per cent of contestable restart kicks
- Scrum success rate was 94 per cent
- Lineout success rate was 76 per cent


## Discipline

- An average of 8.4 penalties and free-kicks were awarded per match
- Seventy-six per cent of all penalties were awarded at the breakdown
- Fifty-four per cent of penalties awarded at the breakdown were against the defending team
- A total of 16 yellow cards were given
- Sixty-nine per cent of cards shown were for foul play offences


## OLYMPIC GAMES AND SEVENS WORLD SERIES COMPARISON

|  | $\begin{gathered} 2016 \\ \text { Olympics } \end{gathered}$ | 2015-16 SWS | 2014-15 SWS | 2013-14 SWS | $\begin{gathered} \text { 2012-13 } \\ \text { SWS } \end{gathered}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| MATCHES | 34 | 170 | 204 | 170 | 102 |
| SCORING |  |  |  |  |  |
| POINTS (average per game) <br> TRIES (average per game) <br> TRY SCORING RATE (rate) <br> CONVERSION SUCCESS (\%) <br> PENALTY / DROP GOALS (total) <br> MATCH WON by scoring most tries (\%) <br> SOURCE OF TRIES - pens/FKs (\%) <br> ORIGIN OF TRIES - own half (\%) <br> TRY BUILD UP - no rucks/mauls (\%) <br> TRY BUILD UP - 3 or fewer passes (\%) | 32.2 5.2 1 every 81 s $53 \%$ 1 $97 \%$ $40 \%$ $29 \%$ $65 \%$ $66 \%$ | 31.8 <br> 5.2 <br> 1 every 87 s <br> $54 \%$ <br> 4 <br> $94 \%$ <br> $38 \%$ <br> $39 \%$ <br> $64 \%$ <br> $55 \%$ | 34.4 <br> 5.6 <br> 1 every 82 s <br> $57 \%$ <br> 0 <br> $89 \%$ <br> $37 \%$ <br> $42 \%$ <br> $64 \%$ <br> $56 \%$ | 29.4 <br> 4.8 <br> 1 every 89 s <br> $53 \%$ <br> 3 <br> $90 \%$ <br> $37 \%$ <br> $41 \%$ <br> $64 \%$ <br> $57 \%$ | 28 <br> 4.8 <br> 1 every 88 s <br> $48 \%$ <br> 4 <br> $85 \%$ <br> $39 \%$ <br> $37 \%$ <br> $60 \%$ <br> $57 \%$ |
| ACTIVITY |  |  |  |  |  |
| BALL IN PLAY (\%) <br> PASSES (average per game) <br> 5+ PASSING MOVEMENTS (rate) RUCKS/MAULS (average per game) RUCK/MAUL RETENTION (\%) KICKS (average per game) | $51 \%$ 62.8 1 in 9.4 18.2 $78 \%$ 1.8 | $\begin{gathered} 54 \% \\ 72.6 \\ 1 \text { in } 7.2 \\ 18.8 \\ 81 \% \\ 1.8 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 55 \% \\ 70.2 \\ 1 \text { in } 7.3 \\ 19 \\ 81 \% \\ 1.9 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} 48 \% \\ 69.4 \\ 1 \text { in } 7.6 \\ 19.6 \\ 80 \% \\ 2 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $50 \%$ 68 1 in 9 21 $80 \%$ 2.2 |
| SET PIECE |  |  |  |  |  |
| CONTESTABLE RESTARTS (\%) CONTESTABLE RESTARTS REGAINED (\%) RESTART ERRORS (rate) <br> SCRUMS (average per game) <br> SCRUMS possession retained (\%) <br> LINEOUTS (average per game) <br> LINEOUTS possession retained (\%) QUICK THROWS (rate) | $58 \%$ $33 \%$ 1 in 13.4 3.6 $94 \%$ 2.2 $76 \%$ 1 in 15.6 | $61 \%$ $31 \%$ 1 in 15 4 $95 \%$ 1.8 $74 \%$ 1 in 13.3 | $49 \%$ $34 \%$ 1 in 12.3 3.6 $94 \%$ 1.8 $75 \%$ 1 in 11.6 | $52 \%$ $32 \%$ 1 in 12.1 4.4 $84 \%$ 2.2 $73 \%$ 1 in 14 | $\begin{gathered} 39 \% \\ 38 \% \\ 1 \text { in } 19.2 \\ 4.6 \\ 87 \% \\ 2.2 \\ 73 \% \\ 1 \text { in } 18 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ |
| PENALTIES/FREE-KICKS AND CARDS |  |  |  |  |  |
| PENALTIES (average per game) CARDS (YC + RC total) | $\begin{gathered} 8.4 \\ 16 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 7.2 \\ & 39 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{gathered} 7 \\ 36 \\ \hline \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.6 \\ & 38 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 6.8 \\ & 18 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |

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## SCORING AND CONCEDING

## TRIES

The average number of points scored in a match was 32 . The average number of points scored/conceded by a team was 16 but, not surprisingly, there were major variations to this average. Australia scored an average of 27.7 points and conceded an average of 5.7 points, whereas Colombia scored an average of two points and conceded an average of 36.6 points.

Overall there was a try scored every 81 seconds of play. Try-scoring rates show how effective each team was in scoring points in relation to the possession that they obtained, and try conceding rates show how effective each team was in restricting points in relation to the possession that their opponents obtained. The below tables give the relevant figures for each participating team. New Zealand had the best try-scoring rate, scoring a try every 55 seconds of their own possession, while Australia had the best try-conceding rate, conceding a try every 202 seconds of opposition possession.

|  | Avg points scored | Avg points conceded | Avg tries scored | Avg tries conceded |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AUS | 27.7 | 5.7 | 4.7 | 1.0 |
| NZL | 26.0 | 7.2 | 4.3 | 1.2 |
| CAN | 22.7 | 9.0 | 3.7 | 1.7 |
| GBR | 22.3 | 11.3 | 3.7 | 1.8 |
| FRA | 17.5 | 14.3 | 2.8 | 2.3 |
| BRA | 17.2 | 16.4 | 2.6 | 2.8 |
| USA | 16.3 | 6.8 | 2.7 | 1.2 |
| AVG | 16.1 | 16.1 | 2.6 | 2.6 |
| ESP | 10.7 | 18.8 | 1.7 | 3.2 |
| FJI | 10.3 | 17.0 | 1.7 | 2.7 |
| JPN | 7.8 | 28.8 | 1.4 | 4.4 |
| KEN | 7.8 | 29.0 | 1.4 | 4.6 |
| COL | 2.0 | 36.6 | 0.4 | 6.2 |


|  | Try scoring rate |  | Try conceding rate |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NZL | 50 | AUS | 202 |
| AUS | 53 | NZL | 173 |
| CAN | 61 | USA | 146 |
| GBR | 69 | GBR | 132 |
| FRA | 74 | CAN | 129 |
| AVG | 81 | FJI | 96 |
| BRA | 85 | FRA | 81 |
| USA | 91 | AVG | 81 |
| KEN | 106 | BRA | 80 |
| FJI | 111 | ESP | 73 |
| ESP | 113 | KEN | 53 |
| JPN | 178 | JPN | 46 |
| COL | 474 | COL | 34 |

## CONVERSIONS

The overall conversion success rate was 53 per cent.

There were noticeable variations in the percentage success rates as seen in the below table. Because of the relatively few tries scored by some teams, applying percentages can only be regarded as indicative. In addition, the location of the score can be a significant factor in achieving a successful conversion.

The below table shows the success rate of all participating teams, with Spain having the highest conversion success rate with $\mathbf{7 0}$ per cent and Colombia the lowest failing to convert any of their tries.

There was one penalty goal kicked.

|  | Conversion <br> Success (\%) |
| :---: | :---: |
| ESP | $70 \%$ |
| BRA | $69 \%$ |
| FJI | $60 \%$ |
| CAN | $59 \%$ |
| FRA | $59 \%$ |
| USA | $56 \%$ |
| GBR | $55 \%$ |
| AVG | $53 \%$ |
| NZL | $50 \%$ |
| AUS | $46 \%$ |
| JPN | $29 \%$ |
| KEN | $29 \%$ |
| COL | $0 \%$ |

## TRY SCORING

There were 180 tries scored, giving an average of 5.2 per match. Australia scored an average of 4.7 tries per match and conceded an average of one try. The average number of tries scored and conceded by all participating teams is shown in the table on the previous page.

## IMPACT OF TRIES

With one penalty goal and a conversion success rate of 53 per cent, it was inevitable that tries would determine the winning team in the vast majority of matches - and this proved to be the case. Of the 34 matches, 33 (or 97 per cent) were won by the team scoring the most tries, while in one (or three per cent) tries were equal. In this match, the outcome was a draw.

## SOURCE OF TRIES

Teams obtained possession of the ball prior to scoring a try from a variety of sources, which are presented in the table below. It can be seen that the most fruitful source of tries was penalties and free-kicks ( 40 per cent). The table shows the importance of turnovers, with 22 per cent of all tries scored from possession originating at a turnover. The following table shows the possession source of tries scored by each team. The team that scored the highest proportion of their tries from penalties/free-kicks were Spain, from turnovers Fiji and from restarts New Zealand.

|  | Penalty \& Free-Kick | Lineout | Turnover | Kick Receipt | Scrum | Restart |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| ESP | 70\% | 0\% | 20\% | 0\% | 10\% | 0\% |
| JPN | 57\% | 0\% | 29\% | 0\% | 0\% | 14\% |
| KEN | 57\% | 14\% | 0\% | 0\% | 29\% | 0\% |
| BRA | 54\% | 15\% | 0\% | 8\% | 0\% | 23\% |
| AUS | 54\% | 4\% | 21\% | 0\% | 11\% | 11\% |
| FRA | 47\% | 24\% | 18\% | 0\% | 6\% | 6\% |
| CAN | 41\% | 5\% | 32\% | 0\% | 14\% | 9\% |
| AVG | 40\% | 9\% | 22\% | 1\% | 13\% | 15\% |
| USA | 31\% | 13\% | 19\% | 6\% | 6\% | 25\% |
| GBR | 27\% | 5\% | 36\% | 0\% | 14\% | 18\% |
| FJI | 20\% | 0\% | 50\% | 0\% | 20\% | 10\% |
| NZL | 19\% | 15\% | 12\% | 0\% | 27\% | 27\% |
| COL | 0\% | 0\% | 0\% | 0\% | 50\% | 50\% |

## ORIGIN OF TRIES

Of the 180 tries scored, 29 per cent originated in the try scoring team's own half and 71 per cent in the opposition half. The team that scored the highest proportion of tries from their own half was Colombia.

|  | Own Half | Halfway <br> to 10 m | $\begin{gathered} 10 \mathrm{~m} \text { to } \\ 22 \mathrm{~m} \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { 22m to } \\ & \text { Tryline } \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COL | 50\% | 0\% | 50\% | 0\% |
| KEN | 43\% | 14\% | 29\% | 14\% |
| FJI | 40\% | 0\% | 30\% | 30\% |
| AUS | 32\% | 7\% | 46\% | 14\% |
| GBR | 32\% | 9\% | 41\% | 18\% |
| BRA | 31\% | 23\% | 8\% | 38\% |
| FRA | 29\% | 12\% | 6\% | 53\% |
| AVG | 29\% | 14\% | 34\% | 23\% |
| JPN | 29\% | 14\% | 29\% | 29\% |
| NZL | 27\% | 15\% | 46\% | 12\% |
| USA | 25\% | 31\% | 38\% | 6\% |
| ESP | 20\% | 30\% | 20\% | 30\% |
| CAN | 18\% | 9\% | 41\% | 32\% |

## BUILD-UP TO TRIES

The table below shows how many rucks/mauls and the total number of passes preceded each try scored in the competition. The table shows that 65 per cent of tries were preceded by no ruck or maul and that 66 per cent of tries were preceded by three or fewer passes.

|  | Ruck/maul in try build-up <br> $\%$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| None | $65 \%$ | $65 \%$ |
| 1 ruck/maul | $26 \%$ | $91 \%$ |
| $2+$ ruck/mauls | $9 \%$ | $100 \%$ |
|  | Passes in try build-up |  |
|  | $\%$ | Cumulative |
| None | $13 \%$ | $13 \%$ |
| $1-3$ passes | $53 \%$ | $66 \%$ |
| $4-6$ passes | $21 \%$ | $87 \%$ |
| $7+$ passes | $13 \%$ | $100 \%$ |

The percentage of tries both scored and conceded with no rucks in the build-up - and the percentage of tries scored with three or fewer passes - are in the table below. It shows that 80 per cent of tries scored by Spain contained no rucks in the build-up, while 81 per cent of tries conceded by Colombia contained no rucks. It also shows that 88 per cent of tries scored by USA contained three or fewer passes in the build-up, compared with 43 per cent by Kenya. Forty-two per cent of tries conceded by Spain contained three or fewer passes in the build-up.

|  | \% of tries with no ruck or maul |  |  |  | \% of tries with < 3 passes |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Tries scored |  | Tries conceded |  | Tries scored |  | Tries conceded |
| ESP | 80\% | ESP | 53\% | USA | 88\% | ESP | 42\% |
| USA | 75\% | JPN | 55\% | CAN | 82\% | AUS | 50\% |
| AUS | 71\% | FJI | 56\% | GBR | 82\% | GBR | 55\% |
| KEN | 71\% | BRA | 57\% | FJI | 80\% | NZL | 57\% |
| FRA | 71\% | FRA | 57\% | JPN | 71\% | FJI | 63\% |
| FJI | 70\% | CAN | 60\% | ESP | 70\% | COL | 65\% |
| CAN | 68\% | AVG | 65\% | AVG\| | 66\% | AVG | 66\% |
| GBR | 68\% | AUS | 67\% | BRA | 54\% | CAN | 70\% |
| NZL | 65\% | NZL | 71\% | NZL | 54\% | FRA | 71\% |
| AVG | 65\% | USA | 71\% | AUS | 54\% | KEN | 74\% |
| BRA | 31\% | GBR | 73\% | FRA | 53\% | JPN | 77\% |
| JPN | 29\% | KEN | 74\% | COL | 50\% | BRA | 79\% |
| COL | 0\% | COL | 81\% | KEN | 43\% | USA | 86\% |

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## ENTRY INTO OPPOSITION 22M AREA

Of all team possessions, an average of 4.1 possessions per match resulted in entering the opposition's 22 m area. Of these entries, an average of 65 per cent resulted in a try being scored from the possession. Australia had an average of 6.2 possessions per match that entered the opposition's 22 m area, with 76 per cent of these entries resulting in a try being scored. USA and New Zealand's opposition had an average of 2.2 possessions that entered their 22 m area, with 54 per cent of these entries resulting in a try being scored. Despite Australia's opposition entering their 22 m area an average of 3.5 possessions, only 29 per cent of these entries resulted in a try.

|  | Opposition 22m <br> Avg 22m <br> Entries |  | Tries scored <br> per entry (\%) |  | Avg 22m <br> Entries |  | 22m <br> Tries scored <br> per entry (\%) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AUS | 6.2 | $76 \%$ | NZL | 2.2 | $54 \%$ |  |  |
| CAN | 5.8 | $63 \%$ | USA | 2.2 | $54 \%$ |  |  |
| NZ | 5.7 | $76 \%$ | CAN | 3.2 | $53 \%$ |  |  |
| FRA | 4.7 | $61 \%$ | FRA | 3.2 | $74 \%$ |  |  |
| USA | 4.7 | $57 \%$ | AUS | 3.5 | $29 \%$ |  |  |
| GBR | 4.5 | $82 \%$ | BRA | 3.6 | $78 \%$ |  |  |
| BRA | 4.2 | $62 \%$ | FJI | 3.7 | $73 \%$ |  |  |
| AVG | 4.1 | $65 \%$ | AVG | 4.1 | $65 \%$ |  |  |
| JPN | 3.2 | $44 \%$ | ESP | 4.3 | $73 \%$ |  |  |
| FJI | 3.2 | $53 \%$ | GBR | 4.7 | $39 \%$ |  |  |
| ESP | 2.3 | $72 \%$ | JPN | 5.0 | $88 \%$ |  |  |
| COL | 1.8 | $22 \%$ | KEN | 7.0 | $66 \%$ |  |  |
| KEN | 1.6 | $88 \%$ | COL | 7.4 | $84 \%$ |  |  |

## REFEREE VIDEO REVIEW

The referee video review (RVR) may be used if the referee and the assistants are unsure as to whether a try has been scored or not. The referee may only refer to the RVR in instances in the act of scoring such as ball grounding in-goal, touch in-goal or being made dead, a player in touch in the act of scoring and foul play in-goal in the act of scoring. The RVR was referred to on three occasions with a try being awarded in $\mathbf{1 0 0}$ per cent of the referrals.

## BALL IN PLAY AND POSSESSION

The ball was in play for an average of 51 per cent of available time with each team averaging three mins 35 secs possession per match. There was a considerable variation in the amount of possession achieved by the various teams. This is shown in the below table, which gives the average possession times and proportion of possession percentages achieved by each team and their opponents in the competition. As seen in the table, there were some measurable differences. Great Britain averaged the highest possession per match with 4 m 14 s , with Kenya only averaging 2m 29s. USA achieved the highest proportion of possession with 59 per cent and Kenya had the least with 38 per cent.

|  | Own avg possession time | \% | Opp avg possession time | \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GBR | 04:14 | 51\% | 04:02 | 49\% |
| JPN | 04:09 | 55\% | 03:21 | 45\% |
| AUS | 04:06 | 55\% | 03:22 | 45\% |
| USA | 04:03 | 59\% | 02:50 | 41\% |
| CAN | 03:45 | 51\% | 03:34 | 49\% |
| BRA | 03:40 | 49\% | 03:45 | 51\% |
| NZL | 03:35 | 52\% | 03:21 | 48\% |
| AVG | 03:35 | 50\% | 03:35 | 50\% |
| FRA | 03:31 | 53\% | 03:09 | 47\% |
| COL | 03:09 | 47\% | 03:31 | 53\% |
| ESP | 03:08 | 45\% | 03:50 | 55\% |
| FJI | 03:04 | 42\% | 04:15 | 58\% |
| KEN | 02:29 | 38\% | 04:03 | 62\% |

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## PASSING

The average number of passes in a match was 63 . The average number of passes by a team was 31 but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

The next table shows major differences between the teams. Such differences can, however, partly be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team - more possession typically means more passes. If possession is taken into account, therefore, the rate at which each country passed the ball can be far closer. Fiji had the highest passing rates (passes per minute of possession) and Colombia the lowest.

Passing activity can also be measured as the number of passes made per phase (or movement) of play. The frequency at which a team completes five or more passes in one phase or movement of play is reported in the table below. A 5+ passing movement occurred on average once every 9.4 phases of play. Fiji had the highest frequency of $5+$ passing movements and Colombia had the lowest, completing a $5+$ passing movement only once every 30 movements.

| Passing <br> rate | Avg <br> passes |  | Movements <br> with 5+ passes |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| FJI | 5.5 | 33.7 | FJI | 3.3 |
| AUS | 6 | 41 | BRA | 6.5 |
| CAN | 6.4 | 35.3 | AUS | 7.1 |
| KEN | 6.5 | 22.8 | ESP | 8.6 |
| ESP | 6.7 | 28.2 | NZL | 8.9 |
| AVG | 6.9 | 31.4 | AVG | 9.4 |
| JPN | 7 | 35.6 | USA | 9.6 |
| NZ | 7 | 30.8 | JPN | 9.9 |
| USA | 7.1 | 34.2 | FRA | 10.7 |
| FRA | 7.3 | 28.8 | KEN | 16.3 |
| BRA | 7.6 | 28.8 | CAN | 17.8 |
| GBR | 7.7 | 32.8 | GBR | 20.5 |
| COL | 8.7 | 21.8 | COL | 30.0 |

## RUCKS AND MAULS

The average number of rucks and mauls in a match was 18. The average number of ruck and mauls by a team was 9.1 but, not surprisingly, there were major variations around this average.

The table below shows major differences in the average number of rucks created by each team. Some of this can be explained by the amount of possession obtained by each team. If this is taken into account, the rate at which each country rucked is far closer, as also shown in the table. This expresses rucks as 'rucks per minute possession'. Colombia had the highest rucking rate and Fiji the lowest.

|  | Rucking <br> rate | Avg rucks |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COL | 14.6 | 13 |
| JPN | 15 | 16.6 |
| GBR | 22.7 | 11.2 |
| CAN | 23.7 | 9.5 |
| AVG | 23.7 | 9.1 |
| FRA | 24.3 | 8.7 |
| USA | 24.7 | 9.8 |
| BRA | 25 | 8.8 |
| KEN | 25.7 | 5.8 |
| NZL | 26.9 | 8 |
| AUS | 27.8 | 8.8 |
| ESP | 33.3 | 5.7 |
| FJI | 42.5 | 4.3 |

## RUCK SUCCESS

At the breakdown, the team taking in the ball retained possession by either winning the ball or being awarded a penalty on 78 per cent of occasions. The percentage success rate of each team in attack and defence is shown below. In attack Australia had the highest success at their own rucks, Kenya the least. In defence, Spain had the highest success at their opponents' rucks, winning 34 per cent of breakdowns, however Canada won the highest average amount with an average of 3.5 rucks won per match. Colombia were the least successful team at their oppositions' breakdown.

| \% Success <br> own rucks | Avg own <br> rucks won |  | \% Success <br> opp rucks |  | Avg opp <br> rucks won |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| AUS | $89 \%$ | 7.8 | ESP | $34 \%$ | 2.8 |
| JPN | $84 \%$ | 14 | CAN | $32 \%$ | 3.5 |
| CAN | $82 \%$ | 7.8 | FRA | $28 \%$ | 2.3 |
| NZL | $79 \%$ | 6.3 | JPN | $24 \%$ | 1.6 |
| USA | $79 \%$ | 7.7 | USA | $23 \%$ | 1.8 |
| AVG | $78 \%$ | 7.1 | AVG | $22 \%$ | 2 |
| BRA | $77 \%$ | 6.8 | AUS | $22 \%$ | 1.8 |
| ESP | $75 \%$ | 4.3 | FJI | $18 \%$ | 2 |
| FRA | $75 \%$ | 6.5 | NVL | $18 \%$ | 1.8 |
| FJI | $74 \%$ | 3.2 | GBR | $16 \%$ | 1.7 |
| GBR | $74 \%$ | 8.3 | BRA | $16 \%$ | 2 |
| COL | $74 \%$ | 9.6 | KEN | $15 \%$ | 1.4 |
| KEN | $69 \%$ | 4 | COL | $5 \%$ | 0.2 |

## RUCK LOCATION

The location where a ruck occurs was categorised into four areas of the pitch: from a team's own try line to their 22 m , from a team's 22 m to the halfway line, from the halfway line to the opposition's 22 m and from the opposition's 22 m to the try-line. The percentage of rucks within the categorised pitch areas in attack and defence for each team are presented in the tables on the next page. Seventythree per cent of all rucks occur between the 22 m areas with eight per cent between a team's tryline and 22 m , and 18 per cent between the opposition's 22 m and try-line. In attack, Brazil had the highest percentage of rucks inside the opposition's 22 m , while Spain had the highest percentage of rucks between both 22 m areas. In defence, New Zealand had the lowest percentage of rucks inside their own 22m, while Great Britain had the lowest percentage between both 22 m areas.

2016 Olympic Games
Women's Rugby Sevens Game Analysis Report

| Attacking |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Own Try-22m |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 22m-Halfway | Halfway-22m | 22m-Opp Try Total |
| JPN | $16 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $24 \%$ | $22 \%$ | 83 |  |  |  |  |  |
| GBR | $12 \%$ | $48 \%$ | $30 \%$ | $10 \%$ | 67 |  |  |  |  |  |
| COL | $8 \%$ | $51 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $9 \%$ | 65 |  |  |  |  |  |
| USA | $8 \%$ | $39 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $10 \%$ | 59 |  |  |  |  |  |
| CAN | $4 \%$ | $28 \%$ | $40 \%$ | $28 \%$ | 57 |  |  |  |  |  |
| AUS | $8 \%$ | $42 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $19 \%$ | 53 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FRA | $8 \%$ | $27 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $21 \%$ | 52 |  |  |  |  |  |
| AVG | $8 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $35 \%$ | $18 \%$ | 617 |  |  |  |  |  |
| NZL | $8 \%$ | $25 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $29 \%$ | 48 |  |  |  |  |  |
| BRA | $2 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $32 \%$ | $34 \%$ | 44 |  |  |  |  |  |
| ESP | $0 \%$ | $47 \%$ | $44 \%$ | $9 \%$ | 34 |  |  |  |  |  |
| KEN | $10 \%$ | $52 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $0 \%$ | 29 |  |  |  |  |  |
| FJI | $0 \%$ | $31 \%$ | $38 \%$ | $31 \%$ | 26 |  |  |  |  |  |


|  | Defending |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Own Try-22m | 22m-Halfway | Halfway-22m | 22m-Opp | Total |
| FJI | 16\% | 33\% | 42\% | 9\% | 67 |
| CAN | 21\% | 30\% | 38\% | 11\% | 66 |
| GBR | 32\% | 29\% | 35\% | 5\% | 63 |
| BRA | 15\% | 32\% | 34\% | 19\% | 62 |
| NZL | 5\% | 36\% | 54\% | 5\% | 61 |
| AVG | 18\% | 35\% | 38\% | 8\% | 617 |
| ESP | 16\% | 40\% | 36\% | 8\% | 50 |
| AUS | 22\% | 39\% | 33\% | 6\% | 49 |
| FRA | 14\% | 33\% | 47\% | 6\% | 49 |
| KEN | 28\% | 43\% | 28\% | 2\% | 47 |
| USA | 15\% | 26\% | 49\% | 11\% | 47 |
| JPN | 18\% | 47\% | 32\% | 3\% | 34 |
| COL | 23\% | 55\% | 18\% | 5\% | 22 |

## KICKING

Kicks comprises of all kicks made in general play including punts, chips, ground (i.e. football kick) and grubber kicks. The average number of kicks in a match was 2.8. As can be seen in the table, Great Britain were the team most likely to kick and Japan the least.

| Avg own <br> kicks | $\%$ | Avg opp <br> kicks |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| GBR | 3 | $72 \%$ | 1.2 | $28 \%$ |
| FRA | 2.7 | $70 \%$ | 1.2 | $30 \%$ |
| ARG | 1.7 | $45 \%$ | 2 | $55 \%$ |
| ESP | 1.4 | $100 \%$ | 0 | $0 \%$ |
| AVG | 1.4 | $50 \%$ | 1.4 | $50 \%$ |
| FJI | 1.3 | $62 \%$ | 0.8 | $38 \%$ |
| AUS | 1.2 | $37 \%$ | 2 | $63 \%$ |
| KEN | 1.2 | $35 \%$ | 2.2 | $65 \%$ |
| RSA | 1.2 | $39 \%$ | 1.8 | $61 \%$ |
| NZL | 1 | $30 \%$ | 2.3 | $70 \%$ |
| BRA | 0.8 | $44 \%$ | 1 | $56 \%$ |
| USA | 0.4 | $50 \%$ | 0.4 | $50 \%$ |
| JPN | 0.3 | $22 \%$ | 1.2 | $78 \%$ |

## RESTARTS

Restarts are the most common set pieces in rugby sevens with an average of 6.2 restarts per match. Restarts have been classified into two types, contestable and non-contestable: 58 per cent of restarts kicks were contestable (kicked short) and 42 per cent were non-contestable (kicked long).

Retention rates reflect the number of times that possession was retained at contestable restarts. They varied considerably. Overall, of all contestable restarts, the kicking team regained 33 per cent of restarts. USA kicked the highest percentage of contestable restarts and Great Britain were the most successful in regaining their own short restarts. Fiji kicked non-contestable restarts the most, while Kenya and Spain did not regain possession once from their own short restarts. There was a restart error once in every 13.4 restarts. Colombia made a restart error once in every three.

|  | \% <br> Contestable restarts |  | \% <br> Restarts regained |  | Restart errors (rate) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| USA | 80\% | GBR | 57\% | AUS | 28.0 |
| AUS | 71\% | USA | 44\% | GBR | 24.0 |
| CAN | 67\% | BRA | 43\% | USA | 20.0 |
| JPN | 64\% | FJI | 40\% | FRA | 19.0 |
| NZ | 59\% | COL | 33\% | BRA | 15.0 |
| AVG | 58\% | AVG | 33\% | ESP | 14.0 |
| GBR | 58\% | NZL | 31\% | AVG | 13.4 |
| FRA | 58\% | AUS | 30\% | CAN | 12.0 |
| COL | 50\% | JPN | 29\% | KEN | 11.0 |
| BRA | 47\% | FRA | 27\% | NZL | 9.0 |
| ESP | 43\% | CAN | 25\% | JPN | 5.5 |
| KEN | 36\% | KEN | 0\% | COL | 3.0 |
| FJI | 33\% | ESP | 0\% | FJI | 0.0 |

WORLD
RUGBY

## SCRUMS AND LINEOUTS

Overall scrum success was 94 per cent and lineout success was 76 per cent. The following table shows the success rates for each team on their own put-in/throw-in. Five teams won 100 per cent of their scrum put-ins. Three teams won 100 per cent of their lineout throw-ins.

|  | Scrum <br> success <br>  <br>  <br>  |  | Lineout <br> success <br> $\%$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| COL | $100 \%$ | BRA | $100 \%$ |
| GBR | $100 \%$ | JPN | $100 \%$ |
| JPN | $100 \%$ | NZL | $100 \%$ |
| KEN | $100 \%$ | FRA | $91 \%$ |
| USA | $100 \%$ | CAN | $86 \%$ |
| AVG | $94 \%$ | KEN | $83 \%$ |
| AUS | $93 \%$ | USA | $83 \%$ |
| NZL | $93 \%$ | AVG | $76 \%$ |
| CAN | $92 \%$ | GBR | $63 \%$ |
| FJI | $91 \%$ | COL | $60 \%$ |
| BRA | $90 \%$ | FJI | $33 \%$ |
| FRA | $90 \%$ | AUS | $25 \%$ |
| ESP | $88 \%$ | ESP | $25 \%$ |

## PENALTIES, FREE-KICKS AND CARDS

The average number of penalties and free-kicks per match was 8.4. What needs to be noted is that absolute statistics and averages do not necessarily reflect the true degree of discipline or ill-discipline of a particular team. The number of penalties can, for example, vary from match to match. Some referees penalise more than others. A better and probably more accurate indicator, therefore, is the proportion of penalties conceded by a team in all their matches compared with their opponents. Each team's proportion for and against can be seen in the below table, together with the totals. Fiji were penalised the least and Spain the most.

Of all penalties awarded, 76 per cent were at the breakdown, with 54 per cent of the penalties against the defending team and 46 per cent against the attacking team. Brazil were the most penalised team at the breakdown, while Australia were the least penalised.

|  | Avg Pen/FK against | Avg tackle/ruck Pen against | $\begin{gathered} \text { \% PK } \\ \text { against } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { \% PK } \\ & \text { for } \end{aligned}$ | Cards |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| BRA | 5.8 | 3.8 | 44\% | 56\% | $\frac{2}{1}$ |
| CAN | 5.3 | 3.3 | 48\% | 52\% | 1 |
| GBR | 4.7 | 2.8 | 50\% | 50\% | 5 |
| KEN | 4.6 | 3.4 | 48\% | 52\% | 1 |
| FJI | 4.5 | 3 | 37\% | 63\% | 2 |
| NZ | 4.5 | 3 | 39\% | 61\% | 4 |
| FRA | 4.3 | 2.7 | 50\% | 50\% | 0 |
| AVG | 4.2 | 2.8 | 50\% | 50\% | 16 |
| JPN | 3.8 | 2.6 | 60\% | 40\% | 1 |
| COL | 3.6 | 2.8 | 54\% | 46\% | 0 |
| USA | 3.3 | 2.3 | 51\% | 49\% | 0 |
| ESP | 3 | 1.8 | 63\% | 38\% | 0 |
| AUS | 2.8 | 1.7 | 58\% | 43\% | 0 |

